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H – 1085

International Court of Justice

H1085 - 0002

Com. A.
Take 3, Page 1.
Meehan
1200 - 1230
3 August 1946
Affidavits

OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT OF TESTIMONY FOR THE DEFENSE OF ORGANIZATIONS, TAKEN BEFORE A COMMISSION APPOINTED BY THE INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH 4 OF THE ORDER OF THE TRIBUNAL DATED 13 MARCH 1946.

SUBMISSION OF AFFIDAVITS BY THE DEFENSE PURSUANT TO THE ORDER OF THE TRIBUNAL DATED 5 JULY 1946.

3 August 1946

COMMISSIONER:

Mr. George R. Taylor.

THE GESTAPO.

(FOLLOWING RECESS)

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: The Commission will convene for the purpose of hearing affidavits on behalf of the Gestapo. Will you start, Dr. Merkel?

DR. MERKEL: I desire to submit the affidavit of Dr. EMIL BERNDORFF, a summary of which follows:

DR. EMIL BERNDORFF - Oberregierungs u. Kriminalrat: "The Civil Service Employees of the Protective-Custody department were administrative officials. Frequently the issuance of the Protective-Custody decree was rejected. The execution of Protective-Custody in the greatest majority of instances did not take place in the concentration camps, but in jails. In 1936 the amount of people in protective-custody amounted to 5,000 to 5,500 at the beginning of the war, to about 10,000.

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At the end of the war, there were about 25,000 and a few thousand others, in addition to about 60,000 Poles.

At that time, the total amount of camp inmates was approximately 550,000 to 600,000. As social and criminal elements among the concentration camp inmates represented a much larger figure than that of political prisoners.

The political sections of the concentration camps were subordinate to the camp commandant and not to the RSHA. The protective-custody department never was informed about mass arrests or mass exterm inations of Jews, nor did it participate by issuance of protective-custody decrees. When in November, 1938, 20,000 Jews were arrested, these were released about six months later. The protectiveecustody department had nothing to do with the concentration camp Theresienstadt. The competent department chief was not permitted to enter that camp. The "bullet" decree had nothing to do with shootings. It meant that prisoners were to be stopped from escaping by a ball and chain. The decree was revoked later. Neither the border police nor the customs police had applied for any protective custody orders. This had to be done by the competent Gestapo office."

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Are there any objections to the affidavit?

COMMANDER HARRIS: I have no objections.

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Let the affidavit be marked GESTAPO NO. 86 for Identification purposes.

****

DR. MERKEL: Affidavit of ANTON WEISS, Regierungsrat: It was the task of Untersuchungsfuehrers (Man in charge of investigation) of the Sipo to investigate matters pertaining to the following affairs: punishable actions as well as disciplinary infringements against members of the Sipo

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and of the SD. They did not exercise any judicial functions. Members of the Sipo were subject to more severe laws than other felons. Severely punishable were infringements of the secrecy duties and crimes against property. Sometimes even capital punishment was prescribed. It would not matter in the prosecution of punishable actions against members of the Sipo whether this action was taken against Jews or non-Jews, German or non-German nationals. It was less the deed itself which was punished, but rather the will to commit a crime. Six individual examples are given to prove that members of the Sipo were either punished by death or given terms at hard labor because of crimes against property, black-mail, mistreatment or statutory crimes."

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Are there any objections to the affidavit?

COMMANDER HARRIS: I have no objections.

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Let the affidavit be marked GESTAPO NO. 87 for identification purposes.

****

DR. MERKEL: Affidavit of Dr. Emil Berndorf, Oberregierungs-und Krim. Rat.: "File Number V C BNO.831/44 GRS designates Amt. V in the RSHA. It signifies that the letter emanates from the Reichs criminal police headquarters. Pansinger had been the successor of Nebes as leiter of Amt. V since the summer of 1944. Obersturmbannfuehrer Dr. Schulze was leiter of Gruppe "Kriegsfahndung" (search for persons involved in crimes pertaining to the war effort) in Amt. V."

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Are there any objections to the affidavit?

COMMANDER HARRIS: I have no objections.

H1085-0005

Com. A.
Take 3-Pg. 4
Meehan
3 August
Affidavits.

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Let the affidavit be marked GESTAPO NO. 88 for identification purposes.

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DR. MERKEL: Affidavit of DR. HANS SCHMITZ, Kriminaldirektor: "Before 1933 and after the Counter-Intelligence police was a special section of the Political police. It was their task to deal with the criminal investigation of cases of high treason. The offices of the counter-intelligence police were separated from the rest of the offices of the state police by iron doors or iron gates. Employees of the counter-intelligence police were not aware of the activity of the state police. The entire personnel of the counter-intelligence police amount to about two to three thousand people. The counter-intelligence police did not send people to concentration camps, they merely transferred people to the comptenent law courts. The counter-intelligence police had nothing to do with Jewish affairs. The counter-intelligence police did not use third degree interrogations. The Abwehrbeauftragten (counter-intelligence agent) in industries always were people working there. They were not Gestapo employees. A very close and friendly cooperation took place between Stapo Koeln and several Dutch Police authorities in varied matters. Very frequently Dutch executive police officials came to conferences at Cologne and vice-versa."

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Are there any objections to the affidavit?

COMMANDER HARRIS: I have no objections.

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Let the affidavit be marked GESTAPO NO. 89 for identification purposes.

****

H1085-0006

COM. A.
Take 3-Pg. 5.
Meehan
3 August
Affidavits.

DR. MERKEL: Affidavit of Siegfried Ueberreither, Gauleiter: "No hostages were shot in the Untersteiermark (lower Styria). The cases mentioned in Document USSR 258 deal with persons under sentence of death for crimes they had committed."

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Are there any objections to the affidavit?

COMMANDER HARRIS: I have no objections.

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Let the affidavit be marked GESTAPO NO. 90 for identification purposes.

****

DR. MERKEL: Affidavit of Dr. Erick Isselhorst, Oberregierungsrat, a summary of which follows: "While the witness was Stapostellenleiter (Stapo Office Chief) in Kologne and BdS in [illegible] Alsace, the Stapo did not persecute the Catholic church. While he was active Stapo office chief in Munich, he had attempted to mitigate the anti-church decrees of the [illegible]x Gauleiter."

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Are there any objections to the affidavit?
COMMANDER HARRIS: I have no objections.
COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Let the affidavit be marked GESTAPO NO. 91 for identification purposes.

****

DR. MERKEL: I have no further affidavits.

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: We will recess for five minutes.

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FOLLOWING RECESS.

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Dr. Gawlik, representing the SD has an affidavit. Will you proceed, Dr. Gawlik?

THE S.D.

DR. GAWLIK: Affidavit of Gerty Breiter, a summary of which is as follows: "Hauptscherfuehrer Ruebe was not a member of the SD, but of the Gestapo. In Minsk the SD had nothing to do with Jewish affairs. The SD activity in Minsk consisted merely of making reports on the general morale and opinion."

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Are there any objections to the affidavit?

COMMANDER HARRIS: I have no objections.

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Let the affidavit be marked SD NO. 69 for identification purposes.

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COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Are there any further affidavits. There being none, the commission will adjourn.

(THE COMMISSION ADJOUNRED AT 1130 HOURS.)

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The foregoing is a true a nd correct transcript of the submission of Affidavits by DR. MERKEL, taken on 3 August 1946.

Reporter (pp

CERTIFIED TO :

Commissioner

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86.) B e r n d o r f f Dr.Emil
Oberregierungs- u.Kriminalrat

Die Beamten des Schutzhaftreferates waren Verwaltungsbeamte. Vom Schutzhaftreferat wurde die Verhaengung der Schutzhaft oft abgelehnt. In der ueberwiegenden Mehrzahl der Faelle erfolgte die Vollstreckung der Schutzhaft nicht in einem KL, sondern in einem Gefaengnis. Die Zahl der Schutzhaeftlinge betrug 1936 etwa 5.000 bis 5.5000, am Kriegsbeginn etwa 1o.ooo. Am Ende des Krieges etwa 25.000ø , dazu kamen noch einige Tausend andere Personen und etwa 6o.ooo Polen.

Die Gesamtzahl der Lagerinsassen betrug um diese Zeit etwa 55o.ooo bis 6oo.ooo. Die Zahl der Asozialen und Krimiellen KL-Insassen war wesentlich hoeher als die Zahl der politischen Haeftlinge.

Die politischen Abteilungen der KL unterstanden nicht dem RSHA, sondern dem Lagerkommandanten. Von Massenfestnehmen oder Massenvernichtungen der Juden war das Schutzhaftreferat niemals unterrichtet oder durch Ausstellung von Schutzhaftbefehlen beteiligt worden. Die 2o.ooo, im Nov.1938 festgenommenen Juden wurden etwa 6 Monate spaeter wieder entlassen. Mit dem KL Theresienstadt hatt das Schutzhaftreferat nichts zu tun, dem Referenten war das Betreten dieses Lagers nicht gestattet. Der Kugelerlass hat mit Erschiess nichts zu tun, sondern bedeutete, dass die Haeftlinge mit einer E isenkugel am Fluchtversuch verhindert waren. Der Erlass

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wurde spaeter wieder aufgehoben. Von der Grenzpolizei und dem Zollgrenzschutz sind keine Schutzhaftantraege bestellt worden, es musste dies vielmehr durch die zustaendige Stapostelle geschehen.

87.) W e i s s , Anton
Regierungsrat

Die Aufgabe eines Untersuchungsfuehrers in der Sipo war es, Ermittlungen in folgenden Angelegenheiten anzustellten: Strafbare Handlungen, sowie Disziplinarvergehen gegen Angehoerige der Sipo und des SD . Eine richterliche Taetigkeit hatte er nicht auzuueben. Die Angehoerigen der Sipo waren weit strengeren Strafbestimmungen ausgesetzt als andere Rechtsbrecher. Verstoesse gegen die Geheimhaltungspflicht sowie Eigentumsdelikte wurden ganz besonders schwer geahndet, unter Umstaenden mit der Todesstrafe. Bei der Verfolgung strafbarer Handlungen gegen Angehoerige der Sipo spielte es keine Rolle, ob sie sich gegen Juden oder Nichtjuden, Deutsche oder Nichtdeutsche richtete. Es wurde weniger die Tat selbst, als der verbrecherische Wille bestraft. 6 besonders Einzelbeispiele beweisen, dass die Taeter (Angehoerige der Sipo) wegen Eigentumsdelikten, Erpressungen, Misshandlungen, sittlichen Verfehlungen u.ae. zum Teil zum Tode, zum Teil zu mehrjaehrigen Zuchthausstrafen verurteilt wurden.

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88.) B e r n d o r f Dr.Emil
Oberregierungs- und Krim.Rat

Das Aktenzeichen V C BNO.831/44 GRS ist ein Aktenzeichen des Amtes V im RSHA und bedeutet, dass das Schreiben aus dem Reichskriminalpolizeiamt stammt. Panzinger war seit Sommer 44 als Nachfeolger Nebes der Leiter des Amtes V. Oberstumrbannfuehrer Dr.Schulze war der Leiter der Gruppe "Kriegsfahndung" im Amt V.

99.) S chm i t z , Dr.Hans
Kriminaldirektor

Die Abwehrpolizei war vor und nach 1933 eine besondere ~~XXXXX~~ Sparte der politische Polizei . Ihre Aufgabe war die kriminalistische Aufklaerung von Landesverratsfaellen. Die Dienststellen der Abwehrpolizei waren durch Eisentueren oder Eisengitter von den uebrigen Dienststellen der Staatspolizei abgetrennt. Beamte der Abwehrpolizei hatten keine Kenntnis ueber die Taetigkeit der Staatspolizei. Der Gesamtpersonalbestand der Abwehrpolizei betrug etwa 2 - 3.000 Koepfe. Einweisungen in ein KL erfolten durch die Abwehrpolizei nicht, sondern lediglich Ueberstellung an die zustaendigen Gerichte. Mit ~~Die~~ Judenangelegenheiten hatte die Abwehrpolizei nichts zu tun. Verschaerfte Vernehmungen wurden bei der Abwehrpolizei nicht durchgefuehrt. Die Abwehrbeauftragten in den Industriebetrieben waren ausschliesslich Werksangehoerige, keine Stapobeamten. Zwischen der Stapo Koeln und verschiedenen hollaendischen Polizeibehoerden fand auf verschiedenen Gebieten eine sehr enge und

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und kameradschaftliche Zusamm enarbeit statt. Leitende niederlaendische Polizeibeamte waren sehr haeufig zu Besprechungen in Koeln und umgekehrt.

90.) U e b e r r e i t h e r
Siegfried
Gauleiter

In der Untersteiermark wurden keine Geiseln erschossen, bei den in der Urkunde USSR 258 erwaehnten Fällen, handelte es sich um Personen die wegen begangener Verbrechen zum Tod verurteilt waren.

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91. Isselhorst Dr. Erich
Oberregierungsrat.

Waehrend der Taetigkeit des Zeugen als Stapostellenleiter in Koeln sowie als BdS im Elsass hat eine Verfolgung der katholischen Kirche durch die Stapo nicht stattgefunden. Auch waehrend seiner Taetigkeit als Stapostellenleiter in Muenchen hat er mildernd auf kirchenfeindliche Beschluesse des Gauleiters eingewirkt.

Zimmer 291.

Herr Freudenthal

H1085 – 0014

Eidesstattliche Erklaerung zum Anklagepunkt Einsatzgruppen, Statement of Evidence VI A des Trial-Briefes, insbesondere zu Anklagedokument PS 1475.

SD Nr. 69 B r e i t e r Gerty:

69

Hauptscharfuehrer R u e b e gehoerte nicht dem SD an, sondern er war Gestapo-Beamter. Der SD hatte in Minsk mit Judenfragen nichts zu tun. Die SD-Taetigkeit in Minsk bestand lediglich in der Abfassung von Berichten ueber allgemeine Stimmung und Meinungsbildung.

H1085-0015

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SUBMISSION OF AFFIDAVITS BY THE DEFENSE PURSUANT TO THE ORDER OF THE TRIBUNAL DATED 5 JULY 1946.

3 August 1946.

COMMISSIONER:

Mr. George R. Taylor.

THE GESTAPO

(FOLLOWING RECESS)

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: The Commission will convene for the purpose of hearing affidavits on behalf of the Gestapo. Will you start, Dr. Merkel?

DR. MERKEL: I desire to submit the affidavit of Dr. EMIL BERNDORFF, a summary of which follows:

DR. EMIL BERNDORFF-Oberregierunge u. Kriminalrat: "The Civil Service Employees of the Protective-Custody department were administrative officials. Frequently, the issuance of the Protective-Custody decree was rejected. The execution of Protective-Custody in the greatest majority of instances did not take place in the concentration camps, but in jails. In 1936 the number of people in protective-custody amounted to 5,000 to 5,500 at the beginning of the war, to about 10-000.

At the end of the war, there were about 25,000 and a few thousand others, in addition to about 60,000 Poles.

At that time, the total amount of camp inmates was approximately 550,000 to 600,000. As social and criminal elements among the concentration camp inmates represented a much larger figure than that of political prisoners.

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The political sections of the concentration camps were subordinate to the camp commandant ant not to the RSHA. The protective-custody department never was informed about mass arrests or mass exterminations of Jews, nor did it participate by issuance of protective-custody decrees. When in November, 1938, 20,000 Jews were arrested, these were released about six months later. The protective-custody department had nothing to do with the concentration camp, Theresienstadt. The competent department chief was not permitted to enter that camp. The "bullet" decree had nothing to do with shootings. It meant that prisoners were to be stopped from escaping by a ball and chain. The decree was revoked later. Neither the border police nor the customs police had applied for any protective custody orders. This had to be done by the competent Gestapo office."

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Are there any objections to the affidavit ?

COMMANDER HARRIS: I have no objections.

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Let the affidavit be marked GESTAPO NO. 86 for identification purposes.

****

DR. MERKEL: Affidavit of ANTON WEISS, Regierungerat: It was the task of Untersuchungsfuehrers (Man in charge of investigation) of the SIPO to investigate matters pertaining to the following affairs: punishable actions as well as disciplinary infringements against members of the SIPO and of the SD. They did not exercise any judicial functions. Members of the SIPO were subject to more severe laws than other felons. Severely punishable were infringements of the secrecy duties and crimes against property. Sometimes even capital punishment was prescribed. It would not matter in the prosecution of punishable actions against members of the SIPO whether this action was taken against Jews or non-Jews, German or non-German nationals. It was less the deed itself that was punished, but rather the will to commit a crime. Six indi-

H1085-0017

vidual examples are given to prove that members of the SIPO were either punished by death or given terms at hard labor because of crimes against property, black-mail, mistreatment or statuatory crimes."

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Are there any objections to the affidavit ?

COMMANDER HARRIS: I have no objections.

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Let the affidavit be marked GESTAPO NO. 87 for identification purposes.

****

DR. MERKEL: Affidavit of Dr. Emil Berndorf, Oberregierungs-und Krim. Rat.: "File Number V C BN0.831/44 GRS designates Amt. V in the RSHA. It signifies that the letter eminates from the Reichs criminal police headquarters. Pansinger had been the successor of Nebes as leiter of Amt. V since the summer of 1944. Obersturmbannfuehrer Dr. Schulze was leiter of Gruppe "Kriesgfahndung" (search for persons involved in crimes pertaining to the war effort) in Amt. V."

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Are there any objections to the affidavit ?

COMMANDER HARRIS: I have no objections.

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Let the affidavit be marked GESTAPO NO. 88 for identification purposes.

****

DR. MERKEL: Affidavit of DR. HANS SCHEMITZ, Kriminaldirektor: "Before 1933 and after the Counter-Intelligence police was a special section of the Political police. It was their task to deal with the criminal investigation of cases of high treason. The offices of the counter-intelligence police were separated from the rest of the offices of the state police by iron doors or iron gates. Employees of the counter-intelligence police were not aware of the activity of the state police. The entire personnel of the counter-intelligence police amount to about three-thousand people. The counter-intelligence police ...

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did not send people to concentration camps, they merely transferred people to the competent law courts. The counter-intelligence police had nothing to do with Jewish affairs. The counter-intelligence police did not use third degree interrogations. The Abwehrbeauftragten (counter-intelligence agent) in industries always were people working there. They were not Gestapo employees. A very close and friendly co-operation took place between Stapo Koeln and several Dutch Police authorities in varied matters. Very frequently Dutch executive police officials came to conferences at Cologne and vice-versa."

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Are there any objections to the affidavit?

COMMANDER HARRIS: I have no objections.

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Let the affidavit be marked GESTAPO NO. 89, for identification purposes.

****

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DR. MERKEL: Affidavit of Siegfried Ueberreither, Gauleiter : "No hostages were shot in the Untersteiermark (lower Styria). The cases mentioned in Document USSR 258 deal with persons under sentence of death for crimes they had committed."

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Are there any objections to the affidavit ?

COMMANDER HARRIS: I have no objections.

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Let the affidavit be marked Gestapo No 90 for identification purposes.

DR. MERKEL: Affidavit of Dr. Erick Isselhorst, Oberregierungsrat, a summary of which follows :"While the witness was Stapostellenleiter (Stapo Office Chief) in Colgne and BdS in Alsace, the Stapo did not persecute the Catholic church. While he was active Stapo office chief in Munich, he had attempted to mitigate the anti-church decrees of the Gauleiter."

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Are there any objections to the affidavit ?

COMMANDER HARRIS: I have no objections.

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Let the affidavit be marked Gestapo No. 91 for identification purposes.

DR. MERKEL: I have no further affidavits.

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: We will recess for five minutes.

FOLLOWING RECESS

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Dr. Gawlik representing the SD has an affidavit. Will you proceed, Dr. Gawlik ?

THE SD.

DR. GAWLIK: Affidavit of Gerty Brieter, a summary of which is as follows :"Hauptscherfuehrer Ruebe was not a member of the SD, but of the Gestapo. In Minsk the SD had nothing to do with Jewish affairs. The SD activity in Minsk consisted merely of making reports on the general morale and opinion."

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Are there any objections to the affidavit ?

COMMANDER HARRIS: I have no objections.

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COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Let the affidavit be marked SD No. 69 for identification purposes.

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Are there any further affidavits. There being none, the commission will adjourn.

(The Commission adjourned at 1130 hours.)

The foregoing is a true and correct transcript of the submission of Affidavits by DR. MERKEL. taken on 3 August 1946

Alice Meehan
reporter

CERTIFIED TO:

George R. Taylor
Commissioner

H1085-0021

OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT OF TESTIMONY FOR THE DEFENSE OF ORGANIZATIONS, TAKEN BEFORE A COMMISSION APPOINTED BY THE INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH 4 OF THE ORDER OF THE TRIBUNAL DATED 13 MARCH 1946.

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DR. EMIL BERNDORFF-Oberregierunge u. Kriminalrat: "The Civil Service Employees of the Protective-Custody department were administrative officials. Frequently, the issuance of the Protective-Custody decree was rejected. The execution of Protective-Custody in the greatest majority of instances did not take place in the concentration camps, but in jails. In 1936 the number of people in protective-custody amounted to 5,000 to 5,500 at the beginning of the war, to about 10-000.

At the end of the war, there were about 25,000 and a few thousand others, in addition to about 60,000 Poles.

At that time, the total amount of camp inmates was approximately 550,000 to 600,000. As social and criminal elements among the concentration camp inmates represented a much larger figure than that of political prisoners.

The political sections of the concentration camps were subordinate to the camp commandant ant not to the RSHA. The protective-custody department never was informed about mass arrests or mass exterminations of Jews, nor did it participate by issuance of protective-custody decrees. When in November, 1938, 20,000 Jews were arrested, these were released about six months later. The protective-custody department had nothing to do with the concentration camp, Theresienstadt. The competent department chief was not permitted to enter that camp. The "bullet" decree had nothing to do with shootings. It meant that prisoners were to be stopped from escaping by a ball and chain. The decree was revoked later. Neither the border police nor the customs police had applied for any protective custody orders. This had to be done by the competent Gestapo office."

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Are there any objections to the affidavit ?

COMMANDER HARRIS: I have no objections.

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Let the affidavit be marked GESTAPO NO. 86 for identification purposes.

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H1085-0023

vidual examples are given to prove that members of the SIPO were either punished by death or given terms at hard labor because of crimes against property, black-mail, mistreatment or statuatory crimes."

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Are there any objections to the affidavit ?

COMMANDER HARRIS: I have no objections.

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did not send people to concentration camps, they merely transferred people to the competent law courts. The counter-intelligence police had nothing to do with Jewish affairs. The counter-intelligence police did not use third degree interrogations. The Abwehrbeauftragten (counter-intelligence agent) in industries always were people working there. They were not Gestapo employees. A very close and friendly co-operation took place between Stapo Koeln and several Dutch Police authorities in varied matters. Very frequently Dutch executive police officials came to conferences at Cologne and vice-versa."

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Are there any objections to the affidavit?

COMMANDER HARRIS: I have no objections.

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Let the affidavit be marked GESTAPO NO. 89, for identification purposes.

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H1085-0025

DR. MERKEL: Affidavit of Siegfried Ueberreither, Gauleiter : "No hostages were shot in the Untersteiermark (lower Styria). The cases mentioned in Document USSR 258 deal with persons under sentence of death for crimes they had committed."

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DR. GAWLIK: Affidavit of Gerty Brieter, a summary of which is as follows :"Hauptscherfuehrer Ruebe was not a member of the SD, but of the Gestapo. In Minsk the SD had nothing to do with Jewish affairs. The SD activity in Minsk consisted merely of making reports on the general morale and opinion."

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Are there any objections to the affidavit ?

COMMANDER HARRIS: I have no objections.

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COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Let the affidavit be marked SD No. 69 for identification purposes.

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Are there any further affidavits. There being none, the commission will adjourn.

(The Commission adjourned at 1130 hours.)

The foregoing is a true and correct transcript of the submission of Affidavits by DR. MERKEL. taken on 3 August 1946

Alice Meehan
reporter

CERTIFIED TO:

George R. Taylor
Commissioner